

**CLAIMS**

1. A compressor comprising:

a compression element for compressing refrigerant gas;

5 a hermetic container for accommodating the compression element;

and

a suction pipe linking inside and outside the hermetic container,

wherein the compression element comprises:

a cylinder;

10 a piston which reciprocates inside the cylinder;

a compression chamber formed in the cylinder; and

a suction muffler whose one end leads to the compression chamber, the suction muffler comprising:

a main body forming a muffling space;

15 an intake port opened to the hermetic container and leading to the muffling space; and

a gas catcher surrounding the intake port and opened facing an orifice of the suction pipe, and

20 wherein a lower end of an opening of the gas catcher is located at a position lower than a lower end of the orifice of the suction pipe.

2. The compressor as defined in Claim 1, wherein an angle between a horizontal line and a shortest line connecting the lower end of the opening of the gas  
25 catcher and the lower end of the orifice of the suction pipe is not less than 30°.

3. The compressor as defined in Claim 1, wherein the intake port of the suction muffler is opened downward, and an inner face of the gas catcher is concavely curved.

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4. The compressor as defined in Claim 1, wherein a volume of the gas catcher is not less than 40% of a volume of the compression chamber.